

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An exhaust gas control apparatus for an internal combustion engine, ~~including comprising:~~

a particulate filter ~~(6) which that~~ is provided in an exhaust passage ~~(5) of an the~~ internal combustion engine ~~(1)~~;

a supercharger ~~(3) which that~~ is provided in an intake passage ~~(2) of the internal~~ combustion engine ~~(1)~~;

an intercooler ~~(4) which that~~ is provided in a portion downstream of the supercharger ~~(3) in the intake passage (2)~~;

a filter recovery ~~means device for that recovering recovers~~ a trapping ability of the particulate filter ~~(6)~~ by increasing a temperature of the particulate filter ~~(6)~~; and

a load obtaining ~~means device for that obtaining obtains~~ a load of the internal combustion engine ~~(1)~~; ~~and characterized by further comprising:~~

an EGR control ~~means device for that causing causes~~ exhaust gas to flow back from a portion downstream of the particulate filter ~~(6)~~ in the exhaust passage ~~(5)~~ to a portion downstream of the intercooler ~~(4)~~ in the intake passage ~~(2)~~ in a case where a load of the internal combustion engine ~~(1)~~ is equal to or lower than a predetermined load, and for causing the exhaust gas to flow back from the portion downstream of the particulate filter ~~(6)~~ in the exhaust passage ~~(5)~~ to a portion upstream of the supercharger ~~(3)~~ in the intake passage ~~(2)~~ in a case where the load of the internal combustion engine ~~(1)~~ is higher than the predetermined load, while the trapping ability of the particulate filter ~~(6)~~ is being recovered.

2. (Currently Amended) The exhaust gas control apparatus for an internal combustion engine, according to claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising:

a first EGR gas take out pipe ~~(7)~~ which ~~that~~ is connected to the exhaust passage ~~(5)~~ at the portion downstream of the particulate filter ~~(6)~~;

a second EGR gas take out pipe ~~(8)~~ which ~~that~~ is connected to the exhaust passage ~~(5)~~ at a portion upstream of the particulate filter ~~(6)~~;

a first EGR gas supply pipe ~~(12)~~ which ~~that~~ is connected to the intake passage ~~(2)~~ at the portion upstream of the supercharger ~~(3)~~;

a second EGR gas supply pipe ~~(13)~~ which ~~that~~ is connected to the intake passage ~~(2)~~ at the portion downstream of the intercooler ~~(4)~~;

a common EGR gas pipe ~~(10)~~ whose one end is divided into two portions one of which is connected to the first EGR gas take out pipe ~~(7)~~ and the other of which is connected to the second EGR gas take out pipe ~~(8)~~, and whose other end is divided into two portions one of which is connected to the first EGR gas supply pipe ~~(12)~~ and the other of which is connected to the second EGR gas supply pipe ~~(13)~~;

a first three-way valve ~~which~~ that is provided at the one end of the common EGR gas pipe ~~(10)~~; and

a second three-way valve ~~which~~ that is provided at the other end of the common EGR gas pipe ~~(10)~~, wherein

while the trapping ability of the particulate filter ~~(6)~~ is being recovered, in the case where the load of the internal combustion engine ~~(1)~~ is equal to or lower than the predetermined load, the EGR control ~~means~~ device controls the first three-way valve ~~(9)~~ so as to provide communication between the first EGR gas take out pipe ~~(7)~~ and the common EGR gas pipe ~~(10)~~, and controls the second three-way valve ~~(11)~~ so as to provide communication

between the second EGR gas supply pipe ~~(13)~~ and the common EGR gas pipe ~~(10)~~, and in the case where the load of the internal combustion engine ~~(1)~~ is higher than the predetermined load, the EGR control ~~means~~ device controls the first three-way valve ~~(9)~~ so as to provide communication between the first EGR gas take out pipe ~~(7)~~ and the common EGR gas pipe ~~(10)~~, and controls the second three-way valve ~~(11)~~ so as to provide communication between the first EGR gas supply pipe ~~(12)~~ and the common EGR gas pipe ~~(10)~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The exhaust gas control apparatus for an internal combustion engine, according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the common EGR gas pipe ~~(10)~~ is provided with an EGR cooler ~~(16)~~, a bypass passage ~~(17)~~ that bypasses the EGR cooler ~~(16)~~, and a passage switching valve ~~(18)~~ that stops one of a flow of the exhaust gas through the EGR cooler ~~(16)~~ and a flow of the exhaust gas through the bypass passage ~~(17)~~; and while the trapping ability of the particulate filter ~~(6)~~ is being recovered, in the case where the load of the internal combustion engine ~~(1)~~ is equal to or lower than the predetermined load, the EGR control ~~means~~ device controls the passage switching valve ~~(18)~~ so as to stops the flow of the exhaust gas through the EGR cooler ~~(16)~~, and in the case where the load of the internal combustion engine ~~(1)~~ is higher than the predetermined load, the EGR control ~~means~~ device controls the passage switching valve ~~(18)~~ so as to stops the flow of the exhaust gas through the bypass passage ~~(17)~~.

4. (Currently Amended) The exhaust gas control apparatus for an internal combustion engine, according to ~~any one of claims 1 through 3~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the load obtaining ~~means~~ device obtains the load of the internal combustion engine ~~(1)~~ based on an accelerator pedal operation amount ~~(ACCP)~~ of a vehicle.

5. (Currently Amended) The exhaust gas control apparatus for an internal combustion engine, according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the load obtaining ~~means device~~ determines that the load of the internal combustion engine ~~(1)~~ is high when the accelerator pedal operation amount ~~(ACCP)~~ is larger than a predetermined amount ~~(D)~~, and determines that the load of the internal combustion engine ~~(1)~~ is low when the accelerator pedal operation amount ~~(ACCP)~~ is equal to or smaller than the predetermined amount ~~(D)~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The exhaust gas control apparatus for an internal combustion engine, according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ while the trapping ability of the particulate filter ~~(6)~~ is not being recovered, the EGR control ~~means device~~ causes the exhaust gas to flow back from a portion upstream of the particulate filter ~~(6)~~ in the exhaust passage ~~(5)~~ to the portion downstream of the intercooler ~~(4)~~ in the intake passage ~~(2)~~.